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TO: City Council  
FROM: Sam Anselm, City Manager  
DATE: May 8, 2015  
RE: Weekly Report

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Good evening, everyone. I apologize for the delay in sending this week's report to you, but here we go.

### Key Meetings

- On Monday I met with Directors Bolander and Pekarek to get an update on the efforts of the Homeless Coalition and a new approach that HUD is promoting to help address the homeless/housing issue. In a nutshell, funding will be provided to hire a person who can serve as a single point of entry for various agencies to refer at risk individuals into the system. Director Pekarek is representing the city on the issue, and as things move forward I/we will keep you updated.
- On Wednesday, Director Allgood and I met to discuss the US Army's Partnership for Youth Success (PaYS) program that connects soldiers with various public and private organizations to guarantee an interview for future employment after an individual completes his or her time in the army. Here's a link if you'd like to learn more: [https://www.armypays.com/GENERAL\\_INFO.htm](https://www.armypays.com/GENERAL_INFO.htm), but we are moving forward by contacting the local Army recruiter's office to enroll as a partner agency.
- Later that afternoon I attended the Circles' Big View quarterly meeting. The Big View team looks at issues or problems on a system-wide level that keep people from moving out of poverty. In particular, this class of Circles leaders is looking at "the Cliff Effect," or a situation whereby an increase in income actually leads to a loss of income-based support programs that can keep families in poverty from improving their financial condition. For more information, you can follow this link to a presentation given by a Colorado group: [www.nccp.org/projects/files/NCCP\\_CO\\_presentation07.pdf](http://www.nccp.org/projects/files/NCCP_CO_presentation07.pdf)
- Earlier today staff and I met with representatives from the S. Main Street TIF to clarify some our position on information that we need from them to complete the "But for" analysis on the TIF in anticipation of the commission meeting scheduled for May 28<sup>th</sup>. It was a productive meeting and I think we are now all on the same page. Our goal is to have the updated TIF plan finalized and sent to the TIF Commission around May 21<sup>st</sup> or 22<sup>nd</sup> along with our staff report.
- This afternoon I met with Callie Hudson, executive director of DJA, to discuss downtown activities, including Third Thursday, the Farmers' Market, downtown parking and other topics/ideas to promote downtown.

### Miscellaneous

- To follow up on a comment from Dr. Grebe regarding the narrowing of 15<sup>th</sup> Street, PW has provided you with the following information and some ideas we're considering for the future:
  - The project on 15<sup>th</sup> street included the reconstruction of the curb & gutter from Florida to Range Line. During the preliminary design phase, staff met with the consultants to discuss the overall project and it was decided that it would be best if we narrowed the street by a total of four feet (2-ft from each side) as the existing cross-section was comprised of two center lanes that were 12-ft wide and two outer lanes that were 14-ft wide. The 14-ft width did not provide enough room to add safe bike lanes nor did it provide ample room for any on-street parking, but it did encourage higher speeds due to the extra wide lane width (lane narrowing is a recognized method of traffic calming). Eventually, 15<sup>th</sup> could actually be looked at for additional traffic calming (or some call a road diet) by reducing the number of traffic lanes to three and adding the bike lanes along each side; all within the new curb-to-curb cross-section that is being built. (this should not be done until a full evaluation of the route is completed to ensure we have adequately the safety of the complete bike route) A side benefit to narrowing the two outer lanes is an increase of the parkway (the area between the back of curb and the right-of-way line) which provides for a safer pedestrian corridor and additional space for any urban re-forestation of the streetscape, which we are doing as well. During the project development, we also added conduits to each side of the street (behind the new curb & gutter) for future street light installations. We worked with Empire to ensure that element was done in a manner that would ultimately meet their specifications should we ask them to install new lights along 15<sup>th</sup>.

### **In the Pipeline**

- We are planning to have a public discussion about downtown parking during the June Third Thursday event. Details are being worked out, but we thought an opportunity to discuss the issue during a downtown event may draw more feedback about whether and to what extent the parking rules downtown are hindering the growth of downtown. More information will come as we get closer.
- Next month is shaping up to be a busy one with respect to meetings – not only are we looking at the meeting with the state auditors, but we should also be ready to have the discussion about CDBG-DR funds. As I mentioned in a previous report, the JET group is moving forward with an assessment of the condition of the various surface elements in the affected area. Once that assessment is completed, the PEPs can be finalized, scored against the criteria, and presented to you for a decision on which projects to move forward with.

Just a reminder about our work session on Monday night, where we will be discussing the library project as well as getting your feedback on the public park project at 26<sup>th</sup> and McClelland. Have a great weekend, and I'll see everyone Monday night.